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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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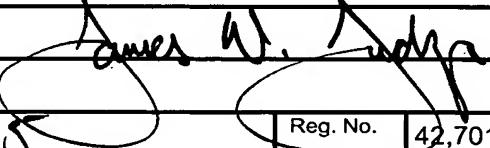
TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/604,512
		Filing Date	July 28, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Masuhiko Natsuhara
		Art Unit	1763
		Examiner Name	Ram N. Kackar
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	38	Attorney Docket Number	39.018-AG

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Judge Patent Firm		
Signature			
Printed name	James W. Judge		
Date	Oct. 11, 2005	Reg. No.	42,701

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/604,512 Confirmation No. 1511
Applicant : Masuhiro Natsuhara, et al.
Filed : July 28, 2003
T.C./A.U. : 1763
Examiner : Ram N. Kackar
Docket No. : 39.018-AG
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

All of the presently submitted references, i.e., Cite Nos. F1 and F3 as listed on Form PTO/SB/08, are not in English. These references were cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

As a concise explanation of the relevance of the presently submitted Japanese-language references, an English translation of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety is submitted herewith. The JPO communication was in Japanese Pat. App. No. 2003-028959, the foreign patent application on the basis of which priority is claimed in the present application. (A copy of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety follows the English translation.)

Furthermore, English abstracts of Cite Nos. F1 and F2 are available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding abstract is attached to the back of each reference.

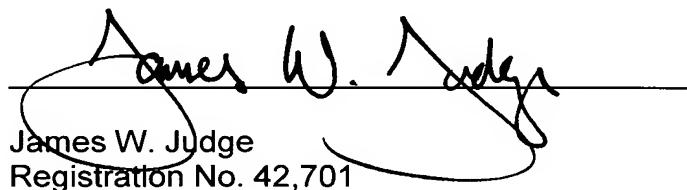
STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Oct. 11, '05



James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/604,512
Filing Date	July 28, 2003
First Named Inventor	Masuhiro Natsuhara
Art Unit	1763
Examiner Name	Ram N. Kackar
Attorney Docket Number	39 018-AG

Sheet

1

of

1

Attorney Docket Number

39.018-AG

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	F1	JP-H08-078193-A	03-22-1996	NGK Insulators		✓
	F2	JP-H08-222555-A	08-30-1996	Fuji Electric		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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